

NOTES ON NEW ENGLAND FOOD-FISHES.**By S. J. MARTIN.**GLOUCESTER, MASS., *October 26, 1881.*

DEAR PROFESSOR: I thought I would write a few lines in regard to the herring fishery,

The herring fishery is over. I find there is some time between schools of spawning herrings. The first gravid herring were caught at Pemaquid, Maine, September 3. The next were taken at Wood Island, September 25. The next, at Rockport, October 3. The next, at Norman's Woe, October 5. The herring were all done four days. When a school struck at Jane's Cove, the herring were full of spawn from the first to the last. The last school caught at Jane's Cove was October 18. They were not so large as the first. They were full of ripe spawn. One thousand barrels have been caught around the cape. Three-fourths went to Portland. The mackerel fishing is fast drawing to a close. The most of the mackerel caught the last week were caught in the night. They are easier to catch in the night than in the daytime. Some vessels got a school last night. I think the sperling (young sea herring) will be scarce this fall. There were plenty of them in September. They all left the river. The fishermen are getting their nets ready; they will set them the last of the month. Hake are plenty on the shore-grounds. The fall school of pollock appeared last week. Some of the Gloucester vessels have made larger stocks this season; I will tell you the largest when fishing is ended.

I remain, your obedient servant,

S. J. MARTIN.

Prof. SPENCER F. BAIRD,

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DESCRIPTION OF THE FISH-WAY IN PITT RIVER, CALIFORNIA.**By S. R. THROCKMORTON.**SAN FRANCISCO, *October 22, 1881.*

DEAR SIR: Your esteemed favor of the 24th ultimo reached me by due course of mail; but confinement to my room by sickness preventing my adding to my information some matters pertaining to the construction of the stone fish-way on Pitt River, I have not been able to reply at an earlier date.

The contract price of the work was \$2,400, and it was completed and turned over to the State for that sum, the work having been well done, and complying with all the requirements of the contract.

Outside of the contract we incurred the additional expenditure of